

Waukesha County Nutrition Coalition Minutes November 27, 2018

Attendees: Dawn Bradshaw- Community Action Coalition for South Central WI; Sally Buchholtz-ProHealth Care; Maggie Carrasquillo- La Casa de Esperanza; Carly Fortier- Waukesha County Community Dental Clinic; Amber Mussomeli- The Salvation Army; Mike Glasgow - ADRC; Jill Herz, Katy Maas, Jen Whitty- UW Extension; Maureen Harbeck-Blessings in a Backpack; Elizabeth Lindsey- Hispanic Health and Resource Center-ProHealth Care; Rosa Zibell – St Joseph’s Medical Clinic.

WCNC Advisory Update:

Elizabeth Lindsey (Hispanic Health and Resource Center) has agreed to serve as coalition co-chair. Mike will continue as co-chair for this year. There will be no meeting in December. The next WCNC meeting is January 22nd.

Speaker: Erin Pechacek- Case Manager at Family Promise of Waukesha County

Family Promise of Waukesha County was originally a local response to problem in New Jersey. It is now a national affiliate—there are 200 nationwide locations now (7 in Wisconsin). In 28 years, Family Promise has served 50,000 people yearly. Family Promise helps families find employment and community resources. It is a 60-90 day program to meet families’ needs. Finding a source of income is the #1 priority. Family promise works to find people family-sustaining jobs. At the day center in Wales, they serve 4 families at a time. Families look for jobs, housing, and childcare- finding affordable housing can be a struggle. Family Promise partners with the Kettle Moraine school district to enroll kids in school. They also help families find dental/health care, signing them up for benefits. They also network with community agencies to get families assistance. Fifteen congregations alternate hosting meals and fellowship, and at least 2 volunteers from each church who stay overnight with the families. Support churches bring in food and provide fellowship. Family Promise Waukesha was first established in 2014 but did not open doors until 2016 due to some community pushback. Since then, 80 families/35 individuals have been served. Main goal is permanent stable housing with a sustainable income. Average stay is 54 days. Family Promise also works with families to help them recognize patterns of behavior and see how choices have led them to where they are. They have an alumni program that is currently a meeting every other month that includes food and childcare. The Alumni program gives people a chance to earn Family Promise dollars by attending a seminar, being involved in child’s education, etc. With those dollars, they can earn items that have been donated. Donations come from businesses, congregations, and individuals. For more info about Family Promise: familypromisewaukesha.org

VIDEO was shown. Video showed the impact of Family Promise of Waukesha County, featuring families who have been part of the program.

Agency Updates:

Salvation Army- Amber Mussomeli: Very busy at Salvation Army due to food pantry influx around the holidays. Christmas assistance application process is closed, but they are still taking late applications that will need to be screened day of.

Community Action Coalition for South Central WI- Dawn Bradshaw- there is additional TEFAP food due to tariffs. Hard to get the extra food out to TEFAP locations.

St Vincent de Paul of Waukesha County- Zoltan Eszes- Coming Together to Get Ahead programs are ongoing. 16-class workshop to help people form a plan to get ahead/get out of poverty. First Spanish-speaking class will be graduating next week.

ProHealth Care- Sally Buchholtz: 2019 Nutrition and Healthy Eating classes will be starting. They are free, but must register. Lineup of classes is available online. Can register online or by phone.

La Casa de Esperanza- Maggie Carrasquillo- Early Head Start will be combining with the daycare program. La Casa is creating a donations store and will be providing “family dollars” to give parents items from the store. La Casa has recently hired new staff- a director and education coordinator.

UW-Extension FoodWise- Jill Herz: Will soon be posting a position for a nutrition educator- will share with the WCNC list when it is posted. Waiting to hear about the impact of the Farm Bill on FoodWise programming.

UW-Extension Health and Well-Being- Jen Whitty: Distributed flyer- Taking Care of You. This is a facilitator training (train the trainer). It is a multi-session program offering practical strategies and experiences to help deal with stress in your life. Questions? Reach out to Jen at jennifer.whitty@ces.uwex.edu or 262-548-7789. Jen is a master trainer.

St Joseph’s Medical Clinic- Rosa Zibell- St Joe’s is finally deciding on a location, between two contenders. Will make a pick based on whichever building is easier to accommodate for the clinic. The building will be in downtown Waukesha, close to current location. Should have a decision by beginning of the year. St Joseph’s will be opening a support group for mental health due to demand. Currently refer to Waukesha Family Practice for depression and anxiety treatment. James Place provides free services, but currently only place that provides that.

Blessings in a Backpack- Maureen Harbeck: Filling backpacks as usual-at volunteer event on last Saturday in January, will fill about 5,000 bags.

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

Next Meeting: January 22, 2018

Speaker: TBD